REMARKS

The Examiner's Action dated April 28, 2006, has been received, and its contents carefully noted.

In addition, appreciation is expressed to Examiner Simone for his courtesy and constructive assistance during the telephone interview held on September 26, 2006. During that interview, agreement was reached on suitable responses to the issues raised in the last office, and the present amendment conforms to those agreements.

The specification has been amended to improve clarity. The amendments to the paragraph that extends between pages 3 and 4 provide a more accurate translation of the paragraph appearing in the international application. Since this application is the national phase of the international application, it is the disclosure of the international application that controls. Therefore, corrections to the translation are always permissible. The amendment to the paragraph on page 15 simply provides a more consistent identification of element 37.

In response to the objection to the drawing, the claims have been amended to refer to a pressure reduction conduit, in place of a hydraulic return circuit. Support for this amendment will be discussed below. The pressure return

conduit is illustrated in Figures 3 and 4 of the drawings as conduit 37.

Accordingly, it is asked that this objection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The specification as originally filed, makes clear that the functions ascribed to the hydraulic return circuit in the previous version of claim 1 are performed by the pressure reduction conduit of the illustrated embodiment. The corrected translation of the paragraph beginning at the bottom of page 3 of the specification clearly indicates that the return circuit includes a pressure reduction conduit.

Claim 1, as now amended, recites that the reservoir is connected to the pressure reduction conduit for return of water leaving the heating unit. In the detailed description of the drawings, reference is made to a pressure reduction conduit 37, which is illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, and it is stated in the specification that hot water present at the exit of heating unit 6 is sent by pressure reduction channel 37 towards reservoir 4 (specification, page 15, lines 22-25). At other points in the specification (page 12, lines 10-18), element 37 is referred to as a "conduit", so that page 15, line 25 of the specification has been amended for the sake of consistency.

Claim 1, as now amended, also recites means (49) for reducing the pressure of the water jet arriving by the pressure reduction conduit for return to the reservoir.

This recitation is supported by the following passages in the specification:

> Conduit 37 is connected to an opening 33 in a bore 29 of funnel 30. Specification, page 12, lines 3-5, 7-9 and 21-23.
>
> "the hot water flow under pressure that is still in the hydraulic circuit at the exit heating unit 6, is sent by a pressure reduction channel 37 towards reservoir 4. In its path, this turbulent hot water flow is broken up by blades 52 of jet quelling unit 50 and it is channeled towards a zone provided for this purpose."

Page 15, lines 22-28.

> "Usefully, said pressure reduction means have a plurality of parallel blades arranged in alternation on a common axis.
>
> These blades constitute a buffer device for the powerful return jet and, by their arrangement on an axis emerging into the inlet opening of the water return jet, force this water jet to follow a sinuous course having for effect a significant pressure loss and obtaining of a sufficiently calm water jet to be able to be directed or recovered thereafter."

Page 6, lines 1-8

> "Blades 52 can have the shape of a disc or any other plane or irregular form adapted to the intended goal. Such an arrangement forces the water jet arriving through the bottom of bore 29 to have a sinuous course, by traveling along the baffles formed by the offset ends of blades 52, which causes the pressure loss or the pressure decrease of the water return jet towards the reservoir."

Page 14, line 25 to page 15, line 2.

Thus, the specification clearly discloses that pressure reduction conduit is connected to supply water being returned to the reservoir to the pressure reduction means.

It is therefore submitted that the present specification discloses that pressure reduction conduit 37 is part of the hydraulic return circuit and performs the functions previously attributed to the hydraulic return circuit in the application claims. Thus, the pressure reduction conduit that is illustrated in the drawings is the component that performs the functions attributed to the hydraulic return circuit in the previous version of the claims.

The rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is traversed.

The claims now recite a pressure reduction conduit, instead of a return circuit. This circuit is described at numerous points in the specification, as discussed above.

The phrase "form of a jet" is also clearly supported by the specification. This language does appear in the specification, at page 2, line 2, as part of a description of a characteristic of a prior art coffee maker with which the present invention deals.

Moreover, the word "jet" appear sixty times in the application, as originally filed, all of which occurrences, by their context, identify the form in which the water is present.

In view of the foregoing, it is requested that the drawing objection and the claim rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, that all the claims now be allowed and that the application be found in allowable condition.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,
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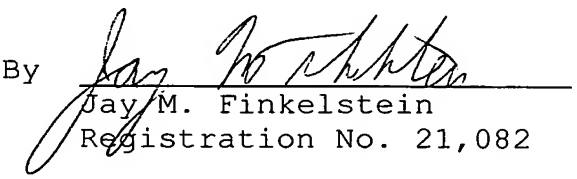
By 
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